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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Feb. 4, 1981

LS-AS-BB-BB OPP

PANTHER BASKETBALL REPORT

THE GAME: Eastern Illinois University (10-9) hosts Wright State (16-2), 7:30 p.m. Saturday (Feb. 7), Lantz Gym, Charleston, IL.

TENTATIVE STARTERS:

<u>EIU</u>				<u>WSU</u>			
F	Ricky Serkin	6-5	Jr.	F	Rodney Benson	6-6	Sr.
F	Eddie Jones	6-3	Jr.	F	Roman Welch	6-6	Sr.
C	Jeff Jacob	6-7	Sr.	C	Steve Hartings	6-8	Sr.
G	Ricky Robinson	6-6	Jr.	G	Eddie Crowe	6-1	Sr.
G	Rico Ellis	6-2	Sr.	G	Keith Miller	6-2	Sr.

THE SERIES: Eastern leads, 5-3. The first game was played in 1976 with EIU winning, 74-61.

THIS YEAR: Wright State downed the Panthers, 81-73, at Dayton, Dec. 22. Chuck Turk injured his knee early in that contest and has not returned yet. Ricky Robinson had 22 points, Rico Ellis had 13 and Jim Williams added 12. Rodney Benson had 22 for Wright State.

THE COACHES: Eastern's Rick Samuels is in his first season.

Wright State's Ralph Underhill, in his third year, is 61-13. Both of his teams have reached the NCAA II Great Lakes Regional, losing in the championship game in '79 and then in the first round to Eastern last winter.

EIU FACTS: In what Coach Rick Samuels described as his "biggest win I've been associated with", the Panthers stopped conference rival Northern Michigan, 62-48, to ease back over .500 at 10-9 (prior to St. Joseph's Wednesday) . . . EIU made 22 of 26 second half free throws . . . they are averaging 74% on the season which ranks them among the top ten in NCAA II stats . . . starting for the first time Eddie Jones (Chicago-Cregier/Lincoln JC) popped 14 . . . Samuels started Jones on the front line and moved veteran Ricky Robinson (Aurora-East) to the backcourt . . . Robinson had eight points, first time this year not in double digits . . . Rico Ellis (Chicago Heights-Bloom/Joliet JC) had 17, his second highest game total . . . with Jones in for the injured Smelter, Samuels has now started seven different combinations . . . x-rays on Jim Williams' hand proved negative . . . the 6-6 junior will still play with tape on his injured wrist but he's not as constricted as prior to the x-rays . . . Ellis, who had 9-9 from the line against NMU, is now 53 of 64, 82.8% . . . in the two games against NMU, Ellis sank a perfect 17-17 free throws . . . EIU stayed out of the MCC cellar (2-2) with the NMU win.

WSU FACTS: Wright State enters this game ranked No. 2 in the nation for NCAA II . . . the Raiders are 16-2 (prior to Wednesday at Youngstown State) . . . they won their first 12 and zoomed to the No. 1 spot but then were upset by St. Joseph's on the road and Bellarmine at home . . . however, they've won three straight since then . . . 18 of their 27 games are at home . . . they are ranked No. 7 in the nation with an average of nearly 87 points a game, and rate No. 5 with a 15 point victory

EIU BASKETBALL

ADD 1

margin . . . four of the starters are in double figures led by forward Rodney Benson at 22.3 . . . Roman Welch, the other standout forward who transferred from a JC last year, is next at 14.9 . . . in the first meeting WSU made 31 free throws, a season high . . . Welch had nine of 12 . . . from the field Wright State is averaging 50.6% . . . Benson is 63.3%.

MCC STANDINGS:	Team	MCC	Overall
	Western Illinois	3-1	14-6
	Eastern Illinois	2-2	10-9
	Northern Michigan	2-3	14-7
	Youngstown State	2-3	7-8

SAMUELS SAYS: "I think Wright State deserves to be ranked among the top teams . . . they have a veteran group . . . all seniors in the starting lineup which means they feel this is the season to make a run at the championship . . . they press all over the floor . . . try to create a frenzied atmosphere where they can get the turnover and play one-on-one with you . . . when we played them earlier we had 30 turnovers but most came in a half court situation . . . I think only about a half dozen were a result of the press . . . the secret to beating this type of team is getting by the press and then controlling the tempo of the game . . . we were able to do this against Northern Michigan and it resulted in a great win . . . we played intelligently . . . kept the ball away from them . . . plus we've matured on the boards the last two games . . . outrebounded two teams with considerably more size . . . I hope this is a start of a good stretch for us."

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 1980-81 NINETEEN GAME BASKETBALL STATISTICS (10-9)

NAME	G(GS)	MIN	FGM	FGA	PCT	FTM	FTA	PCT	REB	AVE	A	ST	PF(D)	TO	PTS	AVE	HIGH GAME
Ricky Robinson	19(19)	635	141	292	.483	64	84	.762	122	6.4	53	36	60	51	346	18.2	30(YSU)
Jim Williams	17(13)	411	66	124	.532	25	33	.757	84	4.9	21	12	57(5)	39	157	9.2	21(NE MO)
Chuck Turk	9(9)	255	33	77	.428	16	22	.727	21	2.3	42	14	15	30	82	9.1	14(NE MO)
Ricky Serkin	18(16)	394	46	94	.489	28	52	.538	78	4.3	13	10	48(2)	42	120	6.7	14(YSU)
Rico Ellis	19(13)	567	66	134	.492	53	64	.828	49	2.6	34	33	51(2)	44	185	9.7	19(Chicago St.)
Leigh Hankins	19	334	31	65	.477	12	14	.857	53	2.8	21	13	43	33	74	3.9	11(CMS & NKY)
Jeff Jacob	18(9)	351	20	39	.513	20	27	.741	62	3.4	26	2	30	27	60	3.3	10(NMU & CSU)
Mark Tarner	12	101	15	32	.469	11	12	.917	11	0.9	10	2	14	18	41	3.4	13(Roosevelt)
Tim Dykstra	14	176	31	63	.492	12	16	.750	35	2.5	16	9	18(1)	14	74	5.3	12(KSU)
Eddie Jones	12(1)	154	21	49	.428	17	22	.773	25	2.1	10	9	20	13	50	4.9	16(SW MO)
Kurt Lorenzen	7	44	7	14	.500	3	4	.750	5	0.7	10	2	3	1	17	2.4	6(Roosevelt)
Roy Sachse	2	8	1	2	.500	0	3	.000	1	0.5	0	1	0	0	2	1.0	2(Ferris)
Eric Moyer	2	2	1	2	.500	0	0	-	2	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	1.0	2(Roosevelt)
Warren Patten *	6(6)	163	35	67	.522	13	16	.812	12	2.0	14	21	9	20	83	13.8	22(Millikin)
Vincent Smelter *	13(9)	270	25	45	.555	13	19	.684	31	2.4	24	14	26(1)	26	63	4.8	11(N. KY)

Team Rebounds 83

EIU TOTALS	19	3865	539	1099	.490	287	388	.740	674	35.4	294	178	394(11)	358	1365	71.8	102(Ferris)
OPPONENTS	19	3865	507	1101	.460	291	429	.678	627	33.0	236	134	352(9)	306	1305	68.7	81(Wright)

* Out for the season due to injury

Dead Ball Rebounds - EIU: 36 OPP: 46

EIU	OPPONENT	ROBINSON	TURK	WILLIAMS	SERKIN	ELLIS	HANKINS	JACOB	SMELTER	DYKSTRA	JONES
69	60 Millikin (H) 4500	16/10	8/1	5/1	9/4	2/3	1/0	DNP	DNP	DNP	6/2
69	70 Central Missouri (A) 3200	14/0	7/2	8/8	2/6	8/1	11/3	1/0	DNP	DNP	2/1
70	72 ISU-Evansville (H) 3000	10/4	11/7	8/6	7/6	8/4	6/3	9/5	DNP	DNP	0/0
102	61 Ferris State (H) 3000	24/15	8/1	16/7	6/3	5/2	4/3	2/5	2/2	4/0	DNP
87	75 St. Joseph's (A) 1200	27/13	13/2	10/4	6/2	5/1	7/8	5/9	DNP	2/2	DNP
71 (20T)	72 Western Illinois (H) 3500	11/6	8/4	19/7	9/5	9/1	4/2	3/8	DNP	DNP	DNP
78 (OT)	76 Northeast Missouri (A) 2400	16/4	14/0	21/8	8/6	12/5	0/5	0/2	7/1	DNP	DNP
69	56 Northern Kentucky (A) 376	20/8	13/4	6/2	1/3	4/1	11/3	2/3	11/3	4/0	DNP
73	81 Wright State (A) 2100	22/4	0/0	12/3	2/6	13/4	2/4	0/2	4/0	8/6	DNP
69	67 Kentucky Wesleyan (A) 4000	19/6	DNP	6/7	11/5	10/1	6/3	1/4	6/2	6/1	DNP
67	71 Southwest Missouri (A) 3055	20/10	DNP	8/9	8/7	15/4	2/2	0/0	0/3	6/0	2/0
62	74 Kansas State (A) 7360	21/7	DNP	16/6	DNP	6/3	4/2	0/2	2/1	12/7	0/1
64	80 Northern Michigan (A) 1756	11/1	DNP	2/2	5/6	16/2	8/1	10/6	2/2	10/8	0/0
72	67 Chicago State (H) 3300	20/6	DNP	4/5	0/0	19/4	3/4	10/3	10/6	2/1	4/1
83	64 Roosevelt University (H) 1500	19/7	DNP	DNP	11/6	14/2	2/3	4/1	2/2	4/3	6/6
72	70 Youngstown State (H) 3500	30/1	DNP	DNP	14/4	8/2	4/2	4/1	5/3	4/5	3/1
68	69 Southwest Missouri (H) 1500	24/7	DNP	2/0	8/1	10/4	2/3	0/3	6/2	0/0	16/7
58	72 Illinois State (A) 3781	13/5	DNP	6/4	7/3	4/1	2/1	4/5	6/4	10/2	6/2
62	48 Northern Michigan (H) 1700	8/8	DNP	8/5	6/5	17/4	2/1	5/3	DNP	2/0	14/4